

EASTWOOD
URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

Annual Report
OF THE
Medical Officer of Health
D. M. FORBES, F.R.C.S.
For 1909.

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EASTWOOD, Notts.,

January 8th, 1910.

TO THE EASTWOOD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

GENTLEMEN,

As your Medical Officer, I beg to submit my Annual Report for 1909.

During the year various visits of inspection have been made, and I am pleased to state as my opinion that the District is in a good sanitary condition on the whole. There is still room for improvement in one or two places. The houses on Canal Side known variously as "Noah's Ark" and "Goose Holes" are in a bad state, and should either be converted into single houses with improved sanitary conveniences, or else closed altogether. Your Inspector has called the owner's attention to them, and I believe some minor improvements have been made, but they are not in a properly habitable condition. Two houses in Nottingham Road, known as Hogg's Yard, are also far from sanitary, being in too close proximity to the open privies and ashpits of other houses.

I understand it is proposed to make Hogg's Yard an entrance to the New Schools, but for various reasons I would urge the Council to use its best endeavours to prevent this. For a small annual payment I have no doubt that an alternative entrance could be made in Church Walk.

It is with much pleasure I have to inform you that the cases of notifiable infectious disease were lower in 1909 than 1908. The numbers are as follows:—

Enteric Fever	...	...	...	8
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	3
Diphtheria	...	...	...	2
Erysipelas	...	...	...	1
Total				14

Enteric Fever is double for the past year, but there is a diminution of Scarlet Fever and Diphtheria. The total for 1908 was 28, so that infectious cases went down half for the year under review. I am sorry to say that Enteric Fever caused one death.

I am glad to know that water closets and ashbins are on the increase, for, as I have pointed out on former occasions, the old-fashioned privies and ashpits are prolific sources of disease. They attract myriads of flies during the summer, and these insects carry disease germs into the homes of the people.

The births for 1909 were 154 (78 girls and 76 boys), being an increase of 17 for the year. Of these 9 only lived for one or two hours; four being premature births, three congenitally defective, and two suffering from debility. For several years the birth-rate has been stationary, so that the increase of 17 for the year may be considered very satisfactory. There were only two weeks when no births were recorded.

The total of deaths for the year was 63—an increase of 2; 35 males and 28 females. There were 19 weeks in which no deaths occurred.

Infantile mortality showed a slight increase, the deaths under one year being 17, as compared with 14 for 1908.

I believe the County Medical Officer is issuing a leaflet on the feeding of infants, which might be of great value to nursing mothers.

Pneumonia was again the principal cause of death, accounting for no less than 15 during the year. There is a steady increase of fatal cases of Pneumonia year by year. No doubt many cases arise through carelessness, or patients being too venturesome after severe Influenza.

Pulmonary Tuberculosis (Consumption) showed a decrease of 3. Four deaths were caused by it, and it is somewhat unusual to find that 3 of them were persons over the age of 50. I hope the time is near when Tuberculosis will be made a notifiable disease.

The other causes of death call for no comment.

Taken as a whole the shops, etc., where food is sold are clean and wholesome.

The milk supply is abundant and of good quality. No Eastwood vendor came under the law during the year.

Any person who is dissatisfied about the nutritive value of the milk supplied can have a sample tested at Kingston Dairy College for a small fee.

The Outfall Works are in course of being considerably enlarged and improved, so that commencing with April or May of this year the whole of the sewage will be dealt with, and the state of the River Erewash improved in consequence.

The disposal of excrement, etc., by the Council's carts continues to be very satisfactory, and the ash-pits are in a generally satisfactory condition.

No serious nuisances have been reported.

It is expected that the New Schools will be opened after Easter, and will provide a very healthy and cheerful environment for the scholars.

The factories and workshops are regularly visited by your Inspector, Mr. A. G. Wheeler, whose able work and methods I have much pleasure in commending.

The chief industry is coal mining, and no disputes occurred in 1909.

There are plenty of houses for the population, but there is still room for improvement where bathing and washing accommodation is concerned. The water supply is pure and abundant.

The streets are kept clean and well paved.

The geographical situation has undergone no change as far as I am aware, and clay is still the predominating feature of the soil.

In accordance with the memorandum received from the Local Government Board, I beg to say that up to the end of 1909 only casual visits of inspection have been made to shops offering meat for sale. I propose to make definite inspections of meat during the present year, and present a fuller report next January. The slaughter-houses with one exception are situated in the midst of the population, and in close proximity to inhabited houses and piggeries. It has not been the custom to visit them at the time of slaughtering, but in 1907-8 cases of meat unfit for food were found. There are 6 recognised slaughter-houses. It is the custom for pig-owners to have pigs killed on their private premises.

There is no Health Visitor. Part III. of the Public Health Amendment Act is not in operation.

Plans for new premises are not passed unless they provide for water closets. The old-fashioned open privies and ash-pits are in about 85 per cent. of the houses.

I have the honour to be, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

DUNCAN M. FORBES.

Causes of, and ages at Death, during year 1909.

Parish of Eastwood.

Causes of Death.	Deaths at the subjoined ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or beyond the District.						
	All Ages.	Under 1 year	1 and under 5.	5 and under 15	15 and under 25.	25 and under 65.	65 and upwards
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Diphtheria (including membranous croup							
Diarrhœa							
Fever (Enteric)	1					1	
Enteritis	2	2					
Gastritis	1						1
Puerperal fever							
Phthisis(pulmonary tuberculosis	4				1	3	
Other Tuberculous diseases ...							
Cancer (malignant disease	2						2
Bronchitis... ..	4		1				3
Pneumonia	15	3	2	1		8	1
Pleurisy							
Other diseases of Respiratory Organs ...	5	3				2	
Premature birth	3	3					
Diseases & accidents of parturition	1	1					
Heart disease ...	4					1	3
Kidney diseases	3					2	1
Conjenital defects	3	3					
Cerebral Hem ...	5				2	1	2
All other causes	10	2		1		4	3
All causes ...	63	17	3	2	3	22	16

Vital Statistics of whole District during 1909 and previous years

Year	Popula- tion es- timated to middle of each year.	Births.		Total Deaths registered in the District.				Nett Deaths at all ages belonging to the District	
		Number	Rate.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.			
				Number	Rate per 1,000 Births regis- tered.	Number	Rate.		
								No.	Rate.
1903	5100	173	34	23		72	14	72	14
1904	5200	138	26	24		69	13	69	13
1905	5200	137	26	27		80	15	80	15
1906	5200	140		18		51		51	
1907	5200	137		19		65		65	
1908	5200	137		14		61		61	
1909	5220	154		17		63		63	
Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water) 940									
Total Population at all ages 5220									

Cases of Infectious Disease notified during year 1909.

Notifiable Disease.	Cases Notified in whole District.					
	At all Ages.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 65	65 and upwards
Diphtheria (includ- ing Membranous Croup)	2			1	1	
Erysipelas... ..	1				1	
Scarlet Fever	3		3			
Enteric Fever	8		3	3	2	
Totals... ..	14		6	4	4	

Factories, Workshops Laundries Workplaces, and Homework.

I.—INSPECTION.

Including Inspections made by Sanitary Inspectors or Inspectors of Nuisances.

Premises.		Inspections.	Written Notices
Factories	... ..	11	0
Workshops	... ..	68	4
		—	—
	Total ...	79	4

2.—DEFECTS FOUND.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.	
	Found.	Remedied
Want of Ventilation	... .. 1	... .. 0
Overcrowding	... .. 1	... .. 1
Other Nuisances...	... .. 2	... .. 2
	—	—
	4	3

4.—REGISTERED WORKSHOPS.

Co-operative Society's Bakehouse	... ..	1
Mr. Smedley's Bakehouse	... ..	1
F. G. Stubbs, Builder & Joiner, with Machinery...	... ..	1
J. Hirst & Sons, Saddlers (Cellar)	... ..	1
C. Barker, with Gas Engine	... ..	1
Other Workshops	... ..	13
	—	—
Total Number of Workshops on Register	... ..	18

5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Act	... ..	1
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshop Act (s. 5).		
Notified by H. M. Inspector	... ..	1